



The Royal Australasian
College of Physicians

Paediatrics & Child Health Division

CHAPTER OF COMMUNITY CHILD HEALTH COMMITTEE

END OF YEAR COMMUNIQUÉ DECEMBER 2014

Dear Fellow and Trainee Members,

The Chapter of Community Child Health Committee (CCCHC) is pleased that the Paediatrics & Child Health Division (PCHD) Council has endorsed activity to determine the importance of the family in the way that paediatricians work. A working group consisting of myself, Dr Chris Pearson (Lead Fellow), Dr Catherine Marraffa (Australia) and Dr Timothy Jelleyman (New Zealand) is formulating a paper for the Council that is likely to propose means of incorporating the notion of family in to the PCHD.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

I am delighted to announce that, following recent approval by the College Education Committee, the 'EPA Pilot – Advanced Training in Community and Child Health' will run during the first six months of the 2015 training year. The objectives are to determine that:

- EPAs are a useful concept within the context of Advanced Training in Community Child Health;
- The format, content and range of EPAs for Community Child Health are appropriate; and
- The supporting processes and structures for the implementation of EPAs are effective.

Thanks to the Chapter of Community Child Health [Specialist Advisory Committee](#) who continue to work tirelessly to improve the quality of the training program as evidenced by this pilot.

Special thanks go to Dr Mick O'Keeffe whose leadership in this area has been invaluable. Dr O'Keeffe's article [Clinical competence in developmental-behavioural paediatrics: raising the bar](#) in The Journal of Paediatrics & Child Health at the beginning of the year provided a good outline of the way forward. This was supported by a well-conceived presentation at the Chapter Satellite Day in Auckland in May; you may access the presentation [here](#). In addition the December 2014 edition of [Chapter Chat](#) provides further material that you will find very informative.

I encourage you to visit (and re-visit for updates) the [EPA pilot page](#); check out informative YouTube videos on the pilot!

WORKFORCE

The CCCHC continues to support the work of the Adolescent & Young Adult Medicine (AYAM) Committee who are seeking to have AYAM recognised as a field of specialty practice; this year we resolved that the theme for the 2015 Chapter Satellite Day is AYAM.

POLICY & ADVOCACY

- A/Prof John Eastwood is the nominated RACP representative to the NSW Child and Family Health State-wide Services NSW Child Network (January 2014).
- Dr Catherine Marraffa attended the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children: Annual Coalition meeting in Melbourne, 21 July 2014 as the nominated RACP representative.
- Representatives of the CCCHC have been involved with RACP meetings with the [Australian] National Disability Insurance Agency. These meetings have provided an opportunity to discuss the RACP role in the diagnosis and management of young children with a developmental disability, and the key issues as we see them for a new and evolving system and the children and their families.
- The CCCHC supports PCHD contribution to the development of the [Australian] National Child and Youth Strategic Framework.
- The development of the RACP position statements 'The role of paediatricians in providing for the mental health of children and young people' and 'Protecting Children is Everyone's Business' has significant community child health input.

RESEARCH

- The 2014 Rue Wright Memorial Award was awarded to Dr Caroline Mahon - *Increased Incidence of Pleural Empyema in New Zealand Children: A Retrospective Review of Paediatric Empyema and Parapneumonic Effusion in South Auckland 1998-2012*.
- The CCCHC resolved that the panel (judges) of the Rue Wright Memorial Award are sought from the Chapter and they should have research skill and expertise.
- The CCCHC congratulates the PCHD Research Committee on the [PCHD Statement on Research for Children and Young People, September 2014](#).

MEMBERS

- The Chapter of Community Child Health Satellite Day was held Sunday 18 May and members of the Paediatric Society of New Zealand were invited to attend. Dr Russell Wills, the New Zealand Commissioner and Chapter member gave the plenary [Child poverty advocacy in New Zealand: progress and lessons learnt](#). The excellent program and presentations are available on the [Chapter webpage](#). The CCCHC Committee thanked the working group members Dr Chris Pearson, Dr Tim Jolleyman, Dr John Eastwood, Dr Terry Donald and Dr David Newman.
- The Chapter Annual Dinner was held Sunday 18 May, 2014 in Auckland, New Zealand.
- [Chapter Chat](#) was published in April 2014 and December 2014.

GOVERNANCE

- The PRC continually reviews its governance and this year the [Chapter of Community Child Health By-law](#) was updated so that the Chair may be nominated by the PRC for a second and third term.
- This year the CCCHC approved:
 - [Child Protection SIG Terms of Reference](#);
 - [Child Population SIG Terms of Reference](#); and
 - [Child Development & Behaviour Terms of Reference](#).
- All terms of [CCCHC members](#) have been updated to align with RACP election cycle, this means the next round of EOIs are scheduled for May 2016. There are no new members to the CCCHC in 2014.
- The Chapter of Community Child Health Annual Meeting was held at the RACP Congress, Monday 19 May, 2014.
- The Child Development Behaviour SIG, Child Protection SIG, Child Population Health SIG annual meetings were held Sunday 18 May during the Chapter Satellite Day.

CCCHC 2015 Meetings:

- Face to Face: Friday, 13 March
- Teleconference: Wednesday, 13 May
- Face to Face: Friday, 24 July
- Teleconference: Wednesday, 4 November

Regards,
Dr Chris Pearson
Chair, Chapter of Community Child Health

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